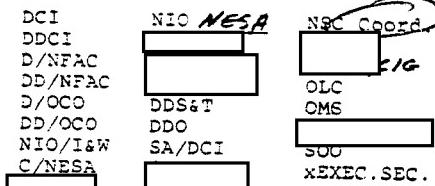


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Rescue

AS-SADAT REFUSES TO CONFIRM EGYPTIAN ROLE IN IRAN RESCUE ATTEMPT

NC251459 PARIS AFP IN ENGLISH 1455 GMT 25 APR 80

(TEXT) CAIRO, APRIL 25 (AFP)--PRESIDENT ANWAR AS-SADAT TODAY SAID, "I HAVE PROMISED THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THAT I SHALL GIVE FACILITIES FOR THE RESCUE OF THE (IRANIAN-HELD) HOSTAGES AND FOR THE RESCUE OF ANY ARAB STATES IN THE GULF."

HE ADDED THAT THIS MORNING'S ABORTED U.S. RESCUE ATTEMPT SHOULD NOT DISCOURAGE FURTHER ACTION.

HE MADE THE STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO A PRESS CONFERENCE QUESTION ON REPORTS THAT THE FAILED MISSION WAS LAUNCHED FROM AN EGYPTIAN MILITARY BASE.

"IT IS HARD LUCK AND SHOULD NOT DISHEARTEN MORE ACTION TO FREE AND RESCUE THE HOSTAGES," THE EGYPTIAN LEADER ADDED.

OBSERVERS RECALLED THAT MR. AS-SADAT FAVORED USING FORCE TO FREE THE CAPTIVES AND HAD ADVISED PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER TO DO SO DURING AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED HERE. BUT HE REFUSED TODAY TO CONFIRM POSSIBLE EGYPTIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE OPERATION.

25 APR 1523Z NB/SAH/1/1

JAC D(SEM)

FEB 19 20

TASS: UK PREPARED TO SEND MILITARY FORCE TO LIBERATE GULF

L0251315 MOSCOW TRS: INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN RUSSIAN 1240 GMT 25 SEP 80

(TEXT) LONDON, 25 APRIL, TASS--THE CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT OF GREAT BRITAIN WILL BE READY TO SEND BRITISH MILITARY DETACHMENTS TO THE PERSIAN GULF AREA IF PRESIDENT CARTER SHOULD DECIDE TO HAVE RECOURSE TO "MILITARY ACTIONS" AGAINST IRAN. THIS WAS ANNOUNCED HERE FOLLOWING A CABINET SESSION HELD YESTERDAY WHICH WAS DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO CONSIDERING ISSUES CONNECTED WITH THE CRISIS IN AMERICAN-IRANIAN RELATIONS. THE DAILY MAIL RECALLS IN THIS CONNECTION A RECENT STATEMENT BY DEFENSE SECRETARY F. PYM, WHO ANNOUNCED THE "EXISTENCE IN BRITAIN OF SPECIAL DETACHMENTS WHICH CAN PROCEED TO CARRY OUT THEIR DUTIES WITH THE MINIMUM DELAY." THESE ARE THE SO-CALLED "SWIFT REACTION COMBAT GROUP," THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WHICH WAS PROVIDED FOR IN THE WHITE PAPER ON DEFENSE PUBLISHED BY THE CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT SOME TIME AGO.

25 APR 1994 15122 MR/SCH

FAC

FBIS 78

## TEHRAN CARRIES EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS OF U.S. LANDING

LD251418 (EDITORIAL REPORT) TEHRAN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN PERSIAN AT 1334 GMT ON 25 APRIL CARRIES AN 8-MINUTE RECORDING OF EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS OF THE LANDING OF U.S. HELICOPTERS IN IRRAN. ACCORDING TO AN INTRODUCTION BY A CORRESPONDENT, "LAST NIGHT, SEVERAL FOREIGN HELICOPTERS AND AIRCRAFT, CARRYING A NUMBER OF ARMED MILITARY PERSONNEL, LANDED 48 KM FROM THE GENDARMERIE POST OF ROBATE KHAN, ALONG THE GAZAKNAME (INDISTINCT) ROAD. THEY THEN BLOCKED THE ROAD TO BUSES AND OTHER VEHICLES AND THREATENED THE PASSENGERS WITH DEATH. THEY LATER TOOK PASSENGERS OF A BUS (WORD INDISTINCT) HOSTAGE; BUT LATER RELEASED THEM."

"THIS MORNING, THE COMMANDER OF TABRS GENDARMERIE, ACCCOMPANIED BY REVOLUTION GUARDS OF THE LOCAL COMMITTEE AND OTHER GENDARMERIE OFFICERS, LEFT FOR THE AREA. HAVING INVESTIGATED THE MATTER, THE GENDARMERIE COMMANDER REPORTED TO (WORD INDISTINCT) THAT ONLY FIVE HELICOPTERS WERE SEEN IN THE AREA. ALSO THAT THERE IS AN AIRCRAFT ON FIRE."

THE CORRESPONDENT THEN CONTINUES HIS REPORT ON THE SITUATION IN THE AREA, ADDING: "SO FAR IT IS NOT CLEAR HOW AND FROM WHAT COUNTRY THESE HELICOPTERS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL HAVE ARRIVED AND LANDED IN THE AREA." THE CORRESPONDENT THEN INTERVIEWS SOME EYEWITNESSES IN THE AREA.

25 APR 1452Z NB/CJ

IAC

IRANIANS SAY U.S. TROOPS CAPTURED THEM  
TEHERAN, APRIL 25, REUTER - EYEWITNESSES TO  
LAST NIGHT'S ABORTIVE U.S. HOSTAGE RESCUE  
MISSION SAID TODAY THEY WERE CAPTURED BY THE  
AMERICAN TROOPS IN THE ISOLATED KAVIR-E-LUT  
DESERT AND ESCAPED ONLY WHEN ONE OF THE  
MISSION'S PLANES DRAUGHT FIRE.

THE EYEWITNESSES TOLD STATE RADIO THEY RAN  
INTO THE COMMANDOS WHILE DRIVING ON THE DIRT  
ROAD BETWEEN YAZD AND TABAS, ABOUT 400 KM (250  
MILES) SOUTHEAST OF HERE. ONE MAN SAID THERE  
WERE IRANIANS AMONG THE RAIDERS.

ONE TRAVELLER SAID HE SAW ABOUT EIGHT  
TRANSPORT PLANES AND ONE HELICOPTER AND A JEEP  
AND MOTORCYCLES BEING UNLOADED.  
MORE 0956

TROOPS CAPTURED 2 TEHERAN

THE ISOLATED REGION WAS APPARENTLY TO BE  
USED AS A BASE FOR A HELICOPTER-BORNE RAID ON  
THE OCCUPIED U.S. EMBASSY IN TEHERAN.

(PRESIDENT CARTER SAID IN WASHINGTON THE  
MISSION WAS ABORTED BECAUSE OF TECHNICAL  
PROBLEMS. TWO AIRCRAFT COLLIDED AND EIGHT  
PERSONS KILLED AS THE MISSION PREPARED TO LEAVE  
IRANIAN TERRITORY.)

AN EYEWITNESS SAID: "THEY STOPPED OUR BUS  
AND TOLD US TO GET OUT. WE WERE SURROUNDED BY  
ARMED MEN... WHEN ONE PLANE LANDED THEY TOLD US  
TO GET ON BOARD. WE WERE STANDING IN THE MIDDLE  
OF THE ROAD WHEN A PLANE DRAUGHT FIRE.  
REUTER 0957